

# I. Workshop Design & Objectives

1. The Eastern Shore tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay contain many of the region's natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources. The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network seeks to link the places people value to an understanding of the Bay as a system, thereby enhancing public commitment to restoration and conservation. The NPS coordinates the Network with state and local governments, the private sector, and other federal agencies. Photo of Onancock Creek by Len Kaufman, courtesy of Virginia Tourism Corporation.
2. Within the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, the NPS, Massachusetts and Rhode Island state governments, municipalities, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions work in partnership to protect the Valley's special identity as the place where America's Industrial Revolution began. One example is the 180-acre Daniels farm, protected for its extensive historical documentation on land use and rural life within the Valley. Photo courtesy of Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor.
3. The North Country National Scenic Trail in North Dakota as it crosses tallgrass prairie in the Shyenenne National Grasslands. The NPS administers the trail in cooperation with other federal, state, and local agencies, private organizations, and individuals. The trail links the seven northern tier states from New York to North Dakota, where it connects with the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail. NPS photo.
4. Participants in a 1997 Underground Railroad Bi-National Charette, which explored interpretive linkages of the Underground Railroad story in the U.S. and Canada. Delegates from the NPS, Parks Canada, and partners spent eight days visiting Underground Railroad sites in Ohio, Michigan, and southern Ontario, Canada. Photo by Barbara Tagger.
5. Youth taking part in summer art programming offered by ArtWorks! at Dover Street, a partner of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The participating youth visited the park to explore their city's whaling history, using art as a medium. Photo by John Robson, courtesy of ArtWorks! at Dover Street.
6. A backpacker along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. The 2,600 mile trail follows the Sierra and Cascade peaks of California, Oregon, and Washington between the Mexican and Canadian borders. Courtesy of the NPS.



The workshop, "Planning and Collaboration: Lessons Learned in Areas Managed through National Park Service Partnerships," held on May 15-17, 2000, was designed to provide participants with a chance to reflect on their work, discuss challenges and new directions with colleagues, and consider the opportunities presented by partnership areas. The twenty-five participants, drawn from the National Park Service (NPS) and partner organizations, brought to the dialogue extensive and diverse experience in collaborative work. The workshop goals were to:

1. Learn from the experience and expertise of participants in order to more effectively plan and manage partnership areas;
2. Develop a strategic vision for the NPS and its partners that will help these areas to flourish; and
3. Identify the next steps needed to implement this vision.

Prior to the meeting participants responded to a set of questions designed to begin capturing their ideas, and the responses helped to frame the workshop agenda and discussions. These questions related to the key issues and challenges that the NPS and its partners face in partnership work, critical factors for successful planning and management, the contributions of partnership areas to the National Park System, and the ideal role for the NPS in the planning and management of these areas. The responses to the pre-meeting questions have contributed substantially to this report.